

11/12/65. Spoke to Asst Mgr Ed. Star Steib, who remembered me, asked him if he wanted to read book (yes) and said all I asked was preserving confidence. Agreed.

He 'll be in touch when he finishes (apologized for Thermofax. He said he could read it okay (after glancing at it). If I am in town toward end next week okay to call him.

Late last year I had spoken to him when I was seeking collaboration. I had given him a brief memo on just a few subjects. On the "found" bullet he was unconvinced. I hadn't told him everything, but enough had he been willing. I didn't mention that today. I did tell him of the AP picture and expressed the hope he would consult the one in their files, if they had it. He said it was wirephoto and might not be clear. Discussed nothing else about book except non-publishing history.

*11/19 - Hsiao had clearly read. Call after end next week*

Several weeks ago (this is 2/26/66) I phoned him and said I was disappointed, that I had hoped to excite him. He said if I hadn't, he would have returned it long ago. He was taking it home that weekend and hoped to finish it then (he had then read about 20 %). Last week he had read most of it and indicated he thought they would not want it. Yesterday he confirmed this, saying that he could not believe there was a very large conspiracy. I said he understood my belief if he removed his description of the size, although I had said nothing of a conspiracy in the book, letting the facts speak for themselves. I asked him if he could challenge any of my evidence or proofs, and he said he could not. I then asked him what all of this meant about the democratic society - were we in danger of losing it? and the freedom of the press - had it, too begun to disappear? He declined to answer these questions and invited me in to see him next time I'm in town.